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UCAPAWA News



AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA - CIO

Vol. IV, No. 10

June 15, 1943

68

Price 5 Cents



Do you know how we can get prices rolled back and greater food production for victory? The answer is SUBSIDIES. Turn to Page 4.

1st Cal Pac Contract Covers More Than 2,000 Employees

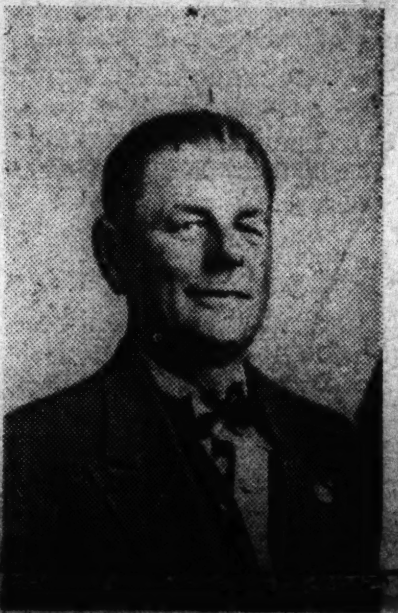
Rochelle, Ill.—A general increase in wages for all workers of the California Packing Corporation canneries in DeKalb and Rochelle was written into the contract just signed by Locals 17 and 18 and the company.

The new contract calls for a 5c per hour increase which together with the former wage increase of a few months ago, makes a total of 10c per hour over the wages of 1942.

The 2,000 seasonal workers who will arrive at the Cal Pac plants on June 20 will receive full benefit of this agreement. Besides higher pay this year, these workers will also be guaranteed seniority, grievance procedure, seasonal bonuses and improved housing.

The grievance procedure clause of the agreement provides for recognition of the shop steward system. Other clauses guarantee a plant-wide seniority system; protection of jobs for those who go into the armed forces; 4 hour work guarantee for those reporting to work; overtime rates for 38 instead of 24 weeks in the year; and leaves of absence for union work. Union security was also provided, in accordance with previous War Labor Board directives.

The contract will expire on March 1, 1944, at which time the union and the company may re-enter negotiations on all or any of the



GEORGE JAGLE

the positions they hold. Credit also goes to the many shop stewards and officers who assisted them.

Ag. Workers Solid

"The picture could not be complete, however, without a word of gratitude to the agricultural workers organized in the same union," continued Fox. "It was the agricultural workers on the Cal Pac farms who, in bleak December, served as winter soldiers in organizing a powerful union of cannery and agricultural workers. We will all bend our efforts now to the successful outcome of the agricultural workers' case pending in the War Labor Board.

"For had it not been for the efforts of such staunch unionists as Brothers George Jagle, Curtis Dowden and W. A. Purvis—leaders of the agricultural workers and officers of the union—together with the farm stewards and others, too numerous to mention, our union would not be celebrating the cannery contract today.

"UCAPAWA wishes you to feel that you are a part of the successes achieved for the cannery workers, and I am certain that the support you have given to the cannery workers will never be forgotten by them. Rather, by strengthening them, you have strengthened yourselves. The gains of the cannery workers will in time be yours. It is together — and together only — that your union moves forward."

For a Victory Pack!

Edward Mear, Chief Steward of Cannery 109 and Recording Secretary of the local, expressed confidence "that we will win most of our points which have not as yet been settled. However, we have already won our main points and we know the government will render a fair decision on the rest. The main thing is to do our production job now, and the union is 100% behind the President's goals of 'Food for Victory'."

Some points were left to the War Labor Board for settlement, such as the demand of the union for double time compensation for the seventh consecutive day of work; overtime rates for work on legal holidays; retroactivity of hourly overtime to April 1; two weeks vacation with pay for hourly employees; and improved union security.

The company and the union agree to make wages retroactive to April 1, 1943, as soon as War Labor Board approval is secured.

Staunch Spirit Wins

Int. Rep. Jack Fox, who led the organization of Cal Pac which culminated in the signing of this contract, paid tribute to the staunch spirit of the cannery and agricultural workers and their leaders.

"I wish to congratulate the cannery workers of Locals 17 and 18 for the solidarity and fraternalism which they have demonstrated during negotiations and for the gains they have made," Brother Fox wrote the News. "The leadership of Brothers Enoch Royalty (of Cannery 111), Dean Kendall (of 110) and Edward Mear (of 109) has been capable and worthy of



DEAN KENDALL

Wage Hike Ordered For Mich. Cannery Workers

Detroit, Mich.—The Regional War Labor Board has approved a flat 15c hourly increase to all cannery workers in the State of Michigan, retroactive to May 1, 1943, according to Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark. The increase was granted for one year (May 1, 1943, to May 1, 1944), and the amount must be paid to all cannery workers over and above the rates of Oct. 2, 1942.

On an 8-hour day basis, this will amount to an increase in wages of \$1.20 per day.

Victory for Union

The victory of the War Labor Board in Michigan, which fought the attempt of the National Cannery Association to secure only permissive wage increases and to exclude canneries not belonging to the Association.

If the Association's efforts had been successful, all canneries would not have been obliged to grant the increase and many canneries under contract with UCA-PAWA who are not members would not have had permission to raise the wages of their employees.

Against the wishes of the Michigan Cannery Association, UCA-PAWA saw to it that Form 10's asking for increased wages were filed in the Union canneries.

Points the Way

The victory in Michigan points the way to similar benefits to cannery workers in other States.

In a statement issued last month to International Officers and Representatives and to canning and food processing locals, Pres. Henderson urged the Locals to try to secure these voluntary wage increases in all the Regions. "We must also fight to have these increases made higher and more adequate," Henderson said, "and we must make sure that these increases apply not only to canneries who are members of the Cannery Association, but also to all other canneries in the various States. This is particularly important for those canneries not belonging to the Association where we already have contracts."

War Labor Board Orders Equal Pay Rights For Women & Negro Workers

Washington, D. C.—In two new decisions, the War Labor Board has made significant rulings establishing firmly the right of equal pay for women workers and Negro workers. The equal pay for women ruling was reaffirmed by the WLB last week in a statement asserting that the principle was fully in accord with the President's "Hold-the-Line" Executive Order of April 8.

The Order of the WLB permits an employer, without prior approval from the Board, to make adjustments "which equalize the wage or salary rates paid to females with the rates paid to males for comparable quality and quantity of work on the same or similar operations," provided that such adjustments shall not furnish a basis either to increase price ceilings or to resist otherwise justified reductions in price ceilings.

Blasts Discrimination

The second ruling came in a unanimous decision of the WLB in regards a wage case involving the Southport Petroleum Company of Texas. The Board ordered the company to grant pay increases to its Negro employees "to place them on a basis of economic parity with white workers in the same classification."

This ruling established the principle that wage classifications based solely on difference in race were without validity.

The unanimous decision in the Negro wage case was written by Dr. Frank P. Graham, public member of the Board, and president of the University of North Carolina.

Americanism, Not Nazism

The decision, Dr. Graham pointed out, "is a bit of realization of the sound American principle of equal work as one of those equal rights in the promise of American democracy regardless of color, race, sex, religion or national religion."

"Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program," Dr. Graham continued. "America, in the days of its infant weakness the haven of heretics and the oppressed of all races, must not in the days of its power become the stronghold of bigots. The world has given America the vigor and variety of its differences. America should protect and enrich its differences for the sake of America and the world . . .

Negro Heroes

"There is no more loyal group of our fellow-citizens than the American Negroes, North and South. In defense of America from attack from without, they spring to arms in the spirit of Dorie Miller of Texas, the Negro mess boy, who, when the machine-gunner on the Arizona was killed, jumped to his place and fired the last rounds as the ship was sinking in Pearl Harbor . . .

"With the victory of democracies the human destiny is toward freedom, hope, equality of opportunity and the gradual fulfillment for all peoples of the noblest aspirations of the brothers of men and the sons of God, without regard to color or creed, region or race, in the world neighborhood of human brotherhood."

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Act now to stop the anti-union Connally - Smith Bill! See story on Page 7.

ON THE ORGANIZING FRONT

By CONRAD ESPE, Executive Vice-President

Your Part In Area Organizing Committees

TODAY, almost every Local is part of an Area Organizing Committee. As these committees get on their feet and grow, they will strengthen our Union, tying every member more closely to UCAPAWA.

Area Organizing Committees are starting to fill an immediate UCAPAWA need, as was intended by the Convention when it decided upon starting them last October.

These committees are already helping to finance and plan more organizing work so that UCAPAWA can meet the pressing wartime needs of organizing the unorganized, and of carrying on local union work under war conditions, such as handling cases through the War Labor Board and other government agencies.

Training Leaders

IN the course of this work, the Organizing Committees are doing something of lasting importance in our Union. They are encouraging and training the members to take a more active part in union work.

Here is an example. The New York Metropolitan Organizing Committee is starting work on organizing Klein's. Does this simply mean that the committee is supplying money so that an Organizer—one man—can get on the job? No. They are doing much more than that.

Forty members of Local 273 came out to an organizing meeting and together laid plans on how to proceed.

These 40 UCAPAWA members decided to start right away contacting the workers, fellow tobacco workers, to get them into the Union. They laid plans for publishing leaflets in Hungarian, Bohemian, Italian and English, so that all Klein workers can read the Union message.

Working Together

ANOTHER point of importance to every UCAPAWA member is that the ties will become much closer between the Locals and the International Office. In the past, many locals have gone along by themselves until they ran into some problem, such as renewing a contract. While this hurdle was being jumped, they have usually been in close touch with an International Representative.

But now, no local need work along as best it can by itself throughout perhaps 11 months. They will be in direct touch with the Area Organizing Committee. And this is a two-way road: Each local bolsters the UCAPAWA work

and at the same time gets regular help in solving its own problems. At the meetings, the local delegates learn much, ranging from exact dope on the latest wrinkle in handling War Labor Board cases, to UCAPAWA programs to help speed victory over the Axis.

The Job Ahead

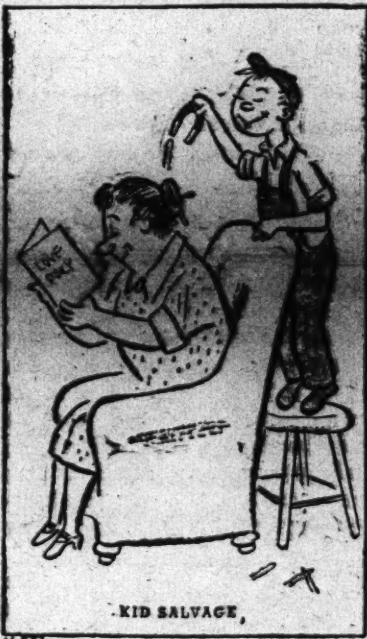
MAYBE your Area Committee hasn't as yet grown to the point where the members back in the locals are taking part in it and directly feeling the benefits. If so, that is neither surprising nor discouraging. Well-oiled Organizing Committees do not spring into life in a minute, or even after one conference alone!

The committees will develop as each local joins up, as each local tends to the hard pan matter of regular finances for the committee, and sees that delegates get into the swim of area conferences and meetings, carefully carrying out decisions made there.

Flash!

The early successes of the Quaker Oats drive in St. Joseph is most encouraging news for the Iowa-Nebraska-Western Missouri Organizing Committee, headed by Int. Rep. Ray Rowles. (Story on page 3.)

The Metropolitan Committee in the New York City area is to be congratulated for having built its treasury solidly so that it can finance a full-time organizer. As the result of this good work, Joseph Manning, Local 293 President, has just become an International Representative to work in that area with Int. Vice-Pres. Armando Valdes.



Forward March!

by HAROLD J. LANE, Secretary-Treasurer

SHOP STEWARDS

All of us understand the importance of good Shop Stewards and agree that in the final analysis the strength of any international union depends on efficient day to day plugging that is performed by Shop Stewards.

Let us briefly review some of his major tasks.

1. He handles all grievances and tries to settle them to the satisfaction of his fellow-worker.

2. He keeps a written record of all grievances and the method of settlement.

3. He knows the workers' rights under the contract and government laws.

4. He is constantly on the alert to discover safety and health hazards and work for

their correction.

5. He keeps his department fully informed on correct and reliable information concerning union procedure and policy.

6. He keeps the members in his department paid up and in good standing.

These are only a few of his jobs and no one ever knows how many other functions he performs for the benefit of his fellow-workers.

These functions are performed in addition to his regular work in the plant.

In most instances the work is performed without compensation and many times without thanks.

The point I am driving at is: Don't you think it is about time that we gave them some recognition?

I know you agree with me in principle and I want you to write and send me your ideas and proposals for awards of recognition for Shop Stewards.



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UCAPAWA Broadcast Is A Hit With Locals

EXPRESSIONS of enthusiasm came in from many locals during the past few weeks, in response to UCAPAWA's radio broadcast on May 30. The broadcast, which was one of a series of weekly "Labor For Victory" programs on a national hook-up, told the whole country about our win-the-war feed policies.

"Congratulations on a fine broadcast," wrote Local 7-2. "It was well written and presented and of vital importance to every American. We hope it will help to bring about total conversion to the 'Food for Victory' plan."

"Members of our Local expressed enthusiasm and satisfaction for the program," said Local 113.

Locals Advertise

Advertisements of the program were placed in local newspapers in Lima, Ohio (Local 69); Winston-Salem, N. C. (Tobacco Workers Organizing Comm.); Longmont, Colo. (Local 113); Traverse City, Mich. (Local 178); and Minneapolis, (Local 492); and many other Locals reported successful listening-in parties.

The broadcast was in the form of a round-table discussion among Pres. Donald Henderson, Secy-Treas. Harold Lane, and Vice-

Presidents Luisa Moreno and Otis Nation.

President Henderson told about the scope of the union. "In a way," he said, "our union is about as much spread out as the country. We take in 32 States, as well as Alaska and Hawaii."

War Problems

The participants discussed the country's food problems in the war. "The basic reason why we have food shortages today and why we're faced with the possibility of worse ones in the future is the failure to convert agriculture as an industry to all-out production of war foods," it was stated.

"Don talked about our union's supporting the CIO win-the-war program on price rollbacks 100 percent," added Lane. "We do. We also back up the rest of the CIO victory program the same way. Our union is on record against strikes ever since Pearl Harbor. We've kept that pledge."

UCAPAWA MIKE SAYS:

Stewards Are Wonderful!

UCAPAWA Mike lounged back in the easy chair after supper and unfolded his new copy of UCAPAWA NEWS, while his wife, Mollie, got busy washing the dishes. Mike's eyes glanced over the headlines for a few minutes, but he couldn't concentrate. Something was on his mind.

"You know, Mollie," he called from the living room, "shop stewards are wonderful people!"

"I can't hear you!" Mollie called back from the kitchen sink.

"I said shop stewards are wonderful people," Mike repeated as he walked into the kitchen, his paper in his hand and his reading glasses balanced uneasily on the tip of his nose.

"Now, what brought that up?" asked Mollie.

"Until last week I never paid any particular attention to our shop stewards," Mike said thoughtfully. "But then our department elected Susie Heinziger to be steward. I was against it. I didn't think a woman could do the job. But she got elected—and you know, Mollie, there's nothing wrong with a woman."

"Well, that's very big of you, Mike," Mollie said quickly. "Here I've been slaving away in this house all these years, bringing up five children, working my skin to the bone, and did you ever stop to think . . . ?"

"The strange part of it is," Mike continued, ignoring the interruption, "that Susie is doing a good job of it."

Explains Contract

"Take today, for instance. In the morning, Susie explained the new contract over the paring table. It was a tough job, too, because there were new seniority clauses and new piece rates for the different jobs. Then old Abby McCarthy complained to Susie that the foreman was trying to speed her up on her job but that she was given a batch of rotten tomatoes to peel and it was tougher work and she didn't like it either, because she was getting less pay out of them. So Susie took it up with the foreman, and his face got redder than the tomatoes and he started yelling over nothing. But, you know? Susie stuck to her guns, cool as anything, and she made the foreman give old Abby a new batch of tomatoes that were 1-1 quality."

"During 'lunch' hour, today,

Susie went around collecting dues and talking to everybody, and by all the Saints, Mollie, you know what she done? Why she signed up three of the biggest cranks in the department who always kicked up their hind legs whenever they heard the word: Union."

"But that ain't all, either. Pretty soon there was a scene in the shop when this grouchy new foreman began to sass Sister Pulanski for using the wrong paring knife. And Sister Pulanski is new in the department and she doesn't talk English so good and the foreman got her so upset and nervous she cut herself, and there was more noise and excitement than blood. But you should see Susie! Why, she ups to the foreman with a black look in her eye, but her voice calm as anything, and she tells him that if he doesn't start to make his manners behave she will simply have to report his actions to the company manager. But the big lunk, when he sees the blood on Sister Pulanski's hand, gets as mad as a bull, and Susie quietly excuses herself from her job. Soon the foreman was called into the manager's office."

A New Foreman

"Well, Mollie, we got a new foreman now. The same guy, but is he changed! And, you know, Mollie? I never realized it before, but stewards are pretty wonderful people, when you get right down to it."

"I don't know," Mollie mused as she stowed the dried dishes away in the closet. "You don't happen to have an eye for this Susie, do you?"

"Why, Mollie, that's downright slander!" Mike exclaimed, waving his glasses in the air. "Susie's a good, serious woman. I just never realized that a woman could be a good shop steward, and I never realized what a tough job a steward has. I don't think anybody really appreciates the shop stewards. They take all the gaff from the workers and from the bosses, and they have to be smart and teach everybody what the Union means, besides."

"I should think the Union would pay special attention to them, then," Mollie said.

"Yes, that's right. I'd like to read more about them in the NEWS," Mike said as he sat down and opened his paper again. "They ought to get special mention or special prizes, or something. The whole Union owes a debt to our shop stewards."

UCAPAWA NEWS

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Fifth Quaker Oats Plant Signing Up With Union

St. Joseph, Mo.—The fifth and last large cereal plant of Quaker Oats in the U. S. A. is practically in the UCAPAWA family, following the opening of an organizing drive early in May—just a bit over a month ago.

Mill Workers Help Farmers Rescue Crops

By Harry Carman, Press Agent
Mt. Vernon, Ind.—During the past month, Local 62 has been setting a patriotic example of farmer-labor cooperation.

The recent flood on the Wabash and Ohio Rivers was a disaster for the farmers in this vicinity. The short time they now have to plant their crops has presented a problem not only to the farmers, but to the American people as a whole, because food production now is one of the main factors in winning the war.

Local 62, not sitting back and doing nothing, has met the problem. Our members are working in the fields; after their hours are put in at the mills, they go to the farms to assist the farmers. This is indeed a wonderful accomplishment and a great thing for the fellows to do.

With this kind of cooperation all over the U.S., there can be no doubt that the war can and will be won.

Already over 300 of the workers are signed up, out of a total of 750 in this St. Joseph plant, according to Int. Rep. Ray Rowles, who was formerly President of Local 120, the Quaker Oats Local in Akron.

Company Game Flops

Enthusiasm for UCAPAWA is high in spite of the fact that the Company has been careful to give to the St. Joseph workers wage raises, seniority, vacation with pay, and grievance machinery as found in the Union contracts in Akron and Cedar Rapids. "The workers have sound union instincts, knowing that nothing will take the place of their own organization in protecting their interests," observed Exec. Vice-Pres. Conrad Espe who has recently been in the area.

The workers have just applied for their UCAPAWA charter.

The other Quaker Oats Locals are 19 (Quaker Oats Division) in Memphis; 110 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 115 in Depew, N. Y.; and 120 in Akron.

Local 448 Earns Praise Of Refugee Committee

The petitions signed by the members of Local 448, in La Crosse, Wis., urging the release of anti-fascist prisoners in North Africa, received a warm welcome by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee which is conducting the petition campaign.

In a letter to International Secretary-Treasurer Lane, Ed Currie, Trade Union Director of the committee, praised the fine work of Local 448.

Signed Petitions

"The importance of these signatures cannot be minimized," wrote Currie, "for they represent an understanding on the part of your organization of the necessity for securing the release of all imprisoned anti-fascist fighters as an essential step in the all-out struggle against fascist barbarism."

"You may be heartened to learn," the letter continued, "that

we have very recently received from Mr. Sumner Welles of the State Department a letter stating that some 2,000 Spanish Republican prisoners have been guaranteed transportation across the ocean by our Government, and are only waiting now to secure the funds to assure their passages from this country to Mexico. The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has assured Mr. Wells of our willingness to undertake the responsibility of raising this money so that these first fighters against fascism in Europe may find a haven...

Tells of Appreciation

"In behalf of those who have been released, and in the name of the thousands still imprisoned who look forward to the day when they can join with us in a united effort to wipe fascism off the face of the earth, let me express our appreciation for the response with which you have met their call for help."



DOING A GOOD JOB in the campaign to release anti-fascist prisoners in North Africa are these officers of Local 448.—They are (left to right): George Jacobus, Rec. Secy.; John Schnell, Fin. Secy.; Mildred Goetting, Steward, Swift Div.; and Floyd Likens, President.

TOBACCO DIVISION

Union Leaders Condemn Lewis

Charleston, S. C.—In a telegram addressed to Philip Murray, Edwin McCrea, Int. Rep., Owen Whitfield, Int. Vice-Pres., and several other local CIO leaders pledged their continued support of Murray's win-the-war leadership and condemned the disruptive tactics of John L. Lewis.

Back CIO and Victory

"The only result of Lewis's tactics is the birth of the Connally anti-strike bill," the telegram stated. "He is engaged in a personal struggle against the Roosevelt administration. The CIO's position is that labor must help win the war against the Fascists or lose everything, and that it can best protect the immediate interests of the workers by giving political aid to a pro-labor administration."

Brothers McCrea and Whitfield who are the leaders of the Union's Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee in Charleston, have done a good job of explaining to the tobacco workers the victory policies of UCAPAWA and the CIO. The results can be seen in the fast growing organizing drive among the employees of the American Tobacco Company. An election is expected to take place there shortly.



Local 26 Fights Fascism With "Tale of a City"

Suffolk, Va.—A thousand copies of "Tale of a City," a story of the Polish occupation, published by the Office of War Information, were distributed in this city by Local 26. This has been a part of the active civilian war services of

Let's Kill It!



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP KILL THE MENACE OF THE BLACK MARKET:

- 1—Buy only from reputable dealers.
- 2—Buy only your Red Stamp Ration share.
- 3—Ask your dealer to show you how meat from licensed slaughterers is identified under the government wartime licensing program.
- 4—Pay no more than the maximum posted price for the cut and quality you buy.

(Reprinted from "We the People," organ of the Norfolk OPA Labor Advisory Committee)

the peanut workers. (One of the illustrations in the booklet is printed above.)

Together with the booklets was the following mimeographed message to Suffolk citizens:

"This booklet tells a tale which will make you shudder. It is a story of what might happen right here in America—even right here in Suffolk—if we should lose this war."

It Could Happen Here

"The pictures will upset your stomach and make you fighting mad. BUT those things COULD happen on the corner of Main and Washington Streets."

"One of the starving little children you will see inside these pages might be YOUR little boy or YOUR little girl. Look at the skeleton-like body of that little boy stacked up on the push cart (page 15) and then make up your mind that a thing like that must not happen here."

"Every American—Doctor, Lawyer, Business Man, Factory Worker—everybody, both White and Colored, must unite in one mighty army to crush the Axis monsters forever. Let's all buy more War Bonds. Let's all do our part at home while our boys are doing more than their part over there."

RJR Victory Rally Signs Up Members

By Frank Hargrove, Int. Rep.

Winston-Salem, N. C.—The first CIO Victory Rally for Winston-Salem, sponsored by UCAPAWA's Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee at R. J. Reynolds, was held Sunday afternoon, May 30 and taxed the seating capacity of the Mt. Calvary Holiness Church. Approximately 350 attended. The white workers were represented by several leading union members.

Whitfield Asks Unity

Rev. Owen H. Whitfield, Vice-Pres. of UCAPAWA was the principal speaker for the Union. Brother Whitfield stressed the necessity for unity of all races to win the war over Fascism, and pointed out that through the CIO, workers enjoy the full meaning of democracy and obtain decent standards of living through collective bargaining. Several quips directed at local employers which, "hit the nail on the head," brought roars of laughter from the audience.

Members of the Voluntary Service Club of the TWOC did an excellent job of circulating union application cards during the meeting, with the result that most of those who were not already members signed up.

U. S. A. Represented

Other speakers for the occasion included W. W. Gaston of Charlotte, N. C., who represented the OPA and spoke on rationing and price control, and Leo Taylor of the local U. S. Employment Service who explained how loyal workers are affected by the Manpower Stabilization Program.

Music was furnished by the Soul Stirring Gospel Singers which rounded out a program that was very much enjoyed by all present.

regular meeting. A motion was made that any steward or officer not attending two meetings a month, and not sending a reasonable excuse, would be discharged from duty and another member fill the vacancy.

By Jennie Stiver, Press Agent

Local Notes:

58 Live-wire chairman Helen Marcel of the R. G. Dun (D-W-G) division of Local 58 in Detroit, Mich., has been unanimously reelected for another term. Although Sister Marcel protested that she should be relieved from office, the membership would hear none of it.

Sister Marcel, besides doing a man-sized job of heading up the local union work in the plant, represented them well on the D-W-G delegation to Washington which brought home an AI contract in January. She is also generous with her time on union work outside the Local. Recently Sister Marcel visited Local 55 in Mid-

dletown, Ohio, together with Int. Vice-Pres. Bob Clark, to extend a cordial invitation for them to join the UCAPAWA Ohio Organizing Committee.

55 At a recent meeting of Local 55 in Middletown, Ohio, which has a contract at the big P. Lorillard plant, a member suggested that we hold only one meeting a month since we now have our contract renewed.

Pres. Oscar Riley said that those that were not interested enough to spend one evening a week discussing ways and means to better our working conditions and find better ways to help our firm, as well, were really not good union people.

Stewards Mast Meet

A special meeting was held for all stewards and officers after our



Subsidies Needed For Roll-Back Of Prices—More Food Production

Statement Before the Senate Agriculture Committee by President Donald Henderson

IT is fitting that the Senate Agriculture Committee should consider the question of rolling back the cost of living and the problems of subsidization which are involved in such a rollback. But price control is only one of the basic elements in the situation. Another is agricultural production.

PRODUCE FOOD!

THE war effort has been penalized and our domestic economy is being threatened by agriculture's failure to convert and to shift its manpower and other resources to production of war essentials, as well as by the harm done by failing to maintain a correct policy of price control during the past year. Price control without production of the foods we need is no solution. Rationing without production is no solution.

General agricultural policies are an integral element in economic stabilization along with price control and wage policies and we trust that the committee will di-

rect its attention to the failure to convert our agricultural production from non-essential crops like short staple cotton and tobacco, of which we still have a two-year supply, to the production of essential foods.

because they know that promises to roll back the cost of living are idle gestures unless they are backed by subsidy payments. There can be no automatic rollback of every price in our vast economy by executive decree. Any attempt to do this would merely disrupt our war effort in its most crucial period.

SUBSIDIES NOT NEW

OPPOSITION to a subsidy program—or more accurately, to price control—has been of such a character that it would appear that no subsidies have ever been given by the United States Government, or by any other government.

As a matter of fact, both in peacetime and increasingly during war, subsidies have played an important role in our domestic economy. Shipping subsidies, subsidies in the form of cost-plus contracts for war production and subsidies to the producers of strategic materials have aroused little opposition.

Agriculture has been one of the greatest fields for subsidization. Starting with gigantic subsidies to curtail production and to market agricultural surpluses during peacetime, and continuing through a number of war-time programs which have made a start in the right direction toward encouraging production of needed foods (but also, unfortunately, maintaining the production of agricultural commodities which are not essential), the Dept. of Agriculture has spent close to a billion dollars annually on subsidization.

During 1942, for example, the Agricultural Marketing Administration purchased canned tomatoes, peas and other products from processors at a price high enough to permit the payment of guaranteed prices to farmers.

Among the other agricultural commodities subsidi-



TOLEDO WORKERS DEMAND PRICE ROLL-BACK: Under the leadership of Local 12, United Auto Workers (CIO), hundreds of workers picketed OPA offices in Toledo, O., demanding a roll-back of prices to May 15, 1942, levels. This photo from The Toledo Union Journal shows part of the demonstration. (Federated Pictures)

dized through price supports and loans were corn, cotton, wheat, rice, tobacco, grain sorghums, peanuts, soybeans for oil, flaxseed, cotton seed, hogs, potatoes, dry edible beans, dry peas, dried fruits, American cheese, mill feed and sugar beets. In some instances, subsidies have been made through purchase and resale at a loss. In the case of peanuts for oil, a subsidy of this type amounted to about \$35,000,000 in 1942. Price supports have in many cases maintained production and profits over a period of years for crops which otherwise have gone out of production.

It is clear that a subsidy program would involve no new departures in government procedure. The new thing today is objectives. Subsidies today are a necessity to produce enough for victory and to make possible a rollback of prices which will stabilize the domestic economy.

BRITISH PRICE LID

SUBSIDIES to control the cost of living are not the new and untried venture its opponents would like us to think. In April, 1941, the British Government was faced with a situation similar to that in the United States during the past year. Prices of most goods were under ceilings but increases were generally permitted as costs rose. The cost of living had gone up 27 percent since Sept., 1939, while wages had risen 19 percent.

The British Government determined to "hold the line," and from April, 1941,

to April, 1943, has succeeded in keeping the total index of cost of living at the same figure. The retail food index has actually been forced down 4 points.

The outstanding feature of the British program, which has not merely talked about holding down prices but has achieved this end, has been the use of food subsidies. Over 90 percent of the foods in the Ministry of Labor cost of living index are now subsidized at various stages of processing and distribution, depending on the products in question. In most cases the subsidy takes the form of a trading loss taken by the Ministry of Food.

At the same time assist-



CIO News

ance to the farmer is provided through cheap fertilizer, special grants, and direct payments to producers of badly needed crops. Potato producers for example, received a direct payment of £10 per acre and the British have been rewarded with an exceptionally successful potato crop.

In pointing to the necessity for subsidies, we are, therefore, not suggesting an untried and unproven scheme, but a necessary step to make a price roll-

back stick and to stimulate agricultural production.

TWO PURPOSES

WITH these two objectives before us, it is clear that there must be two kinds of subsidies. With respect to both, there has been considerable confusion in public discussion and consequently in the minds of farmers, who are therefore justifiably asking whether the burden of rollback will not fall on them.

The most immediate type of subsidy program required is one which will make the rollback of prices possible. Under the proposed OPA program, subsidies are given at the processor level and there is no guarantee to the farmer that the rollback will not affect him in spite of the subsidy. Such a guarantee can and should be given, just as it is at present given to the growers under the canned vegetable program of the Food Administration.

Members of the Committee have asked repeatedly what guarantees the farmer will have that he is not to be the victim of a subsidy program. Government agencies appear to have the authority to make such guarantees at present. If they do not, Congress clearly has the authority to provide that farmers' prices will not be reduced, or that purchases will be made by the Govern-

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)



CIO News

rect its attention to the failure to convert our agricultural production from non-essential crops like short staple cotton and tobacco, of which we still have a two-year supply, to the production of essential foods.

ROLL BACK PRICES!

WITH respect to the rollback in the cost of living, the facts are so glaring that no one has dared to question them. Since Sept. 15, 1942, the cost of living has risen by 7 percent. Since May, 1942, when Pres. Roosevelt first announced his seven point program, the cost of living has risen by over 15 percent. During the same period wages have been virtually frozen.

The President's program has been in effect with respect to wages but not with respect to prices. It is necessary, therefore, that prices be rolled back.

But while no one has dared to question the necessity for a rollback, the forces which favor inflation and the wrecking of our economy have focussed their attack upon the subsidy program. They have done this

WLB Orders Permanent Western Shed Panel

Washington, D. C.—The recent directive order of the National War Labor Board in the dispute case between Local 78 and the Growers-Shippers Association of Arizona and California, is a distinct victory for the Union's demands.

The War Labor Board ordered the Regional Board to name a standing tri-partite panel to settle disputed issues in the contracts, present and future, thus recognizing the need for an over-all body to handle the complex problems of the packing shed industry. It also ordered the Regional Board to issue a supplementary order to abolish the unjust split bench system which operates in many of the sheds, and to appoint an arbitrator for the settlement of future grievances.

In doing so, the National WLB reversed the decisions of the Regional Board, which would have created even more inequalities than had already existed in the industry. The Union's petition for wage adjustments was, however, denied.

The order of the National WLB to the Regional Board follows:

No Split Bench

1. In the dispute cases to issue a supplementary order abolishing or appropriately regulating the wage practice of the "split bench," and to direct the parties at once to operate under the contracts so far as they are completed.

Tri-Partite Panel

2. To name a standing tri-partite panel or division of the Board: (a) to consult with the parties concerning unsettled issues in contracts that have not been completed or which arise in future negotiations between the union and employers engaged in like operations; (b) to make recommendations to the Regional Board on these issues when unable to bring the parties to agreement; (c) to report to the Regional Board within six months as to the necessity for a permanent panel.

Appoint Arbitrator

3. To appoint an arbitrator or arbitrators when such contracts call for such appointment by the National War Labor Board or its Chairman, for the settlement of grievances; such arbitrator or arbitrators to serve without expense to the National War Labor Board.

This directive order applies to 32 companies in Salinas, California; 14 companies in Phoenix, Arizona; 10 companies in Yuma, Arizona; the H. F. Carin Company in Summerton, California; and 32 companies in El Centro, California; all under contract with Local 78.

By The Editor

All-Out for VICTORY



CIO PROGRAM ADOPTED IN CLEVELAND, MAY, 1943

Congress of Industrial Organizations
718 Jackson Place, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

CIO News

YOUR WAR JOB WITH CONGRESS

YOUR LOCAL WILL RECEIVE a sample copy of both of these important CIO pamphlets, which are "must" reading for all UCAPAWA members, to help you in your union work. All-Out for Victory is the basic resolution adopted at the CIO Cleveland meeting in May. Your War Job is reviewed below. Order from Publicity Dept., CIO, 718 Jackson Pl., N.W., Washington, D. C. Your Job is six cents a copy, 100 for \$4.50, 500 for \$15. All-Out for Victory is 100 for \$1, 500 for \$4.50. See that your local gets these to the members!

Your Congressman Will Vote Your Way If You and Unions Do the Job Right

New York—(FP) — Anti-labor groups exercise political influence by spending money. Labor groups, that is, unions, exercise political influence by involving their members in legislative activity.

Nowhere is this pointed out more effectively than in a new 3000-word legislative manual just published by the CIO. Entitled **YOUR JOB WITH CONGRESS**, it traces the path of legislation from the time it lands in the hopper to its final enactment into law.

Organization of the home front, support for Pres. Roosevelt, and yes, conduct of the war itself, depend in large measure on the legislative surveillance exercised by the labor movement, the CIO study makes clear.

"Everything we have and every-

thing we do is affected by what goes on in government," it declares. "Our wages, our working conditions, our rights as Americans, the food we eat, the clothes we wear are controlled by what happens in Washington."

"To fight inflation, to drive food costs down and food production up, to see that our unions continue to live and function—we have to work with congress and with government just as hard as we work to build our unions and keep war production rolling."

JULY 4 NEWS

In honor of July 4 we propose that the next issue of UCAPAWA NEWS be bang-up, with lots of news from the Locals.

Be sure to get stories, pictures, letters in, on time, by June 18. If you cannot make it by then, let us know that your material is coming and we can hold space until June 22.

Shop stewards should send letters telling of a recent grievance handled and enclosing a picture of himself or herself.



ANY BONDS TODAY? Just ask Martha Snow (above) the answer to that question. The answer? SURE!

Martha is a member of Local 68 who turns all of her wages into War Bonds. Smart girl! She says she's saving money to spend in the future, and without bond-buying there is no future.

"Wish more of us could afford to do the same thing," says Press Agent Harriet Jacobi.

More power to you, Martha!

NEED SUBSIDIES FOR ROLLBACK OF PRICES, MORE FOOD PRODUCTION

(Continued from Page 4)

ment directly from the farmers at stated prices and resold to processors. Farmers, together with all consumers, are concerned with swollen margins; if subsidies are paid to processors or distributors to absorb increased production costs, there must be strict policing of profit margins.

The second type of subsidy should go directly to farmers for the purpose of aiding them in conversion to war crops, in increasing production and absorbing their higher production costs. These subsidies may take form of direct payments to growers for production of needed crops and should also take the form of incen-

tive payments for increases in production above minimum levels. Ample machinery exists under the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Farm Security Administration to tie direct production subsidies and incentives to agricultural production goals established for essential crops and products.

Include Labor!

ADEQUATE agricultural production, price rollback and stabilization must be further supplemented by grade labeling of consumer goods, sufficient appropriations for OPA to carry on the job, and participation of labor, the single group

which has the most at stake in seeing the job done.

Finally, a tax program is required which will raise the money to meet our war needs, including appropriations for subsidies. Money for subsidies is needed now to achieve stabilization of the economy. If stabilization is not achieved now, it will be too late to act. It is no argument against subsidies to say that these funds must be paid back out of taxes and that therefore the public will gain nothing. A fair tax program will raise the money from those sources where it is to be had; and as part of such a fair tax program, labor stands ready as it has in the past to make its proper contribution.

Colorado Local Wins 10c Boost

Longmont, Colo.—A ten-cent per hour increase for the workers at the Kumer-Empson Brighton Plant has been granted by the Regional War Labor Board, pending approval of the Director of Economic Stabilization.

Local 113, which won the increase, is a UCAPAWA pioneer in Colorado, our first cannery workers' union in that State. Their contract was signed last October.

In an official letter to Guy Greenly, President of Local 113, the Regional War Labor Board set forth its decisions on the wage case. The new ruling raises the men's pay to 65c per hour and the women's to 54c per hour.

Notes LOCALS

297 Warm weather has turned the thoughts of Local 297 at Woolson Spice, Toledo, Ohio, to a picnic. At the last meeting, according to Rec. Secy. Dan Smith, the picnic date was set for August, and a wide-awake picnic committee was chosen. Office workers are invited to join the Union members in the holiday.

Plans for the Labor Day parade were already up for discussion. The Local has always made a good showing in these parades and intends that the year 1943 will be no exception.

7-1 One of the original UCAPAWA locals, started back in 1937, Local 7-2 of Seattle, Wash., continues to renew and improve its excellent Union Shop contract with National Fruit Canning.

Minimum wages agreed upon in the 1943 contract, but not yet approved by the War Labor Board, are 70c for women and 85c for men, with classified job rates running up to \$1 an hour for cooks and \$1.15 for engineers and firemen.

Minimum rates in the 1942 contract were 55c for women and 70 to 75c for men.

New Ruling On Exemption Period

"Certain warehouse employees in the canning industry are exempted for 14 weeks from overtime provisions of the Wage-Hour law until March 1, 1944," according to a recent announcement of the Wage and Hour Division.

If you need the full story on which warehouse employees fall into the exemption period, write to U. S. Dept. of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, 165 West 46 St., New York City. Ask for release R-1974.

More Determined Than Ever: The Poinsett Workers' Story

By Idelle McAlexander,
Recording and Financial Secretary, Local 85

Trumann, Ark.—There is a long and exciting story behind the victory of Local 85—the decision of the War Labor Board to grant increases up to 15% for Poinsett workers. The Union has had a difficult struggle with a tough company, but now, at last, we feel that we've come into our own.

Twice before UCAPAWA came on the scene, small groups of employees at Poinsett had tried to organize the plant. Twice they failed. The company had disrupted their organization.

"There will never be a Union at Poinsett, but if one does get in, it will never amount to a damn," was one of the statements that was made before June, 1942.

"Some of Hitler's tactics are good—we can use them here," was another statement that was made by one of the company officials before June, 1942.

But in that month, the company had a more difficult task than it had ever dreamed of having.

Workers Organize

A group of workers got together with a representative of UCAPAWA with the intent of organizing. Those men knew that they were tired of being driven like slaves for only \$12 and \$15 a week. They had their minds made up to do something about it, and they did do something about it.

They got busy giving out UCAPAWA application blanks to all the employees. At the end of the first week they were able to report to the Company that 95% of its employees had designated UCAPAWA-CIO, Local 85, as their sole collective bargaining agent and asked the Company to recognize it as such. This request was a complete surprise to company officials, and the fireworks began.

Immediately petitions were prepared and people were paid by the company to circulate them through



IDELLE McALEXANDER

the plant. The people were told that if they did not sign this petition, they were going to be laid off. The employees replied: "I'd be just as well off not working as I am working under these conditions." Very few of them signed.

Even the Works Manager followed the people to their meeting place to see just who was attending the meetings. Within two weeks, over 300 employees were fired.

The whole town was in an uproar. Only the members of Local 85 were more determined than ever.

Won Election

After the NLRB came into the picture, an election was held, and Local 85 won its first victory. The company received only 27 votes, after having talked to every employee before going to the polls.

begging them to forget about the Union.

When it came to negotiating a contract the Conciliation Service was called in twice, and then a WLB mediator had to be sent in before the committee was able to negotiate. But a contract was signed on November 16, 1942. Another victory.

The company, however, did not give up. And NEITHER DID THE UNION.

The company ignored the seniority clause of the contract. They tried to hire high school boys and girls, hoping that these youngsters would keep away from the Union. But even the youngsters are not so dumb—they want to join too, and they will.

Increases Granted

The WLB has handed down its approval of wage increases up to 50¢ per hour, which have been pending since last November, retroactive to August 30. Approximately 175 people will now receive as much as \$100 each in back pay. Other disputes have been filed with the WLB, and we are expecting a decision within the near future.

Our people have been very discouraged at times, but with this "extra change" in their pockets, they are much happier. The company has tried everything under the sun to provoke a strike, and it was only pure determination and stick-to-it-iveness that has kept the workers solid.

We have had a long, hard fight, but we are now more determined than ever and are looking forward to many more victories.



TO POLITICAL ACTION

By ELIZABETH SASULY
Legislative and Research Director

Washington, June 10

1. As we go to press a Conference Committee of House and Senate members is putting the Smith-Connally-Lewis bill into final form. In his wildest dreams Cong. Smith of Virginia could have hoped for nothing better than the union-busting bill which is coming out of this Conference Committee. (See story on page 7.)

ACTION: WRITE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO VETO THE SMITH-CONNALLY BILL!

Agricultural Bill

2. The Senate is debating the Agricultural Appropriations Bill for 1944. This is the bill which will determine whether many of the points in UCAPAWA'S Food Program will be put into effect or will go on the scrap heap.

The House "Farm Bloc" wrote into the Bill Ed O'Neal's Farm Bureau program to kill FSA, cut soil conservation payments which farmers now receive when they reach their war production goals and tie up government credit for farmers' war crops. The House passed one of the worst bills in history.

The Senate Appropriations

Committee restored 130 million dollars to FSA and 100 million in soil conservation funds. The Senate is expected momentarily to approve the Committee's action on FSA. Then the bill will go to a Conference Committee.

ACTION: WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN AND SENATORS. Tell them the Food for Victory Union wants an agricultural appropriations bill which will aid conversion of our agricultural plants to war production. Therefore, this bill must include at least the funds voted for FSA by the Senate Committee. We also want 400 million dollars for soil conservation and funds for war crop loans. Tell your Congressman and Senators that you expect them to take the right position on these points and bring pressure on the Conference Committee to write them into the Agricultural Appropriations Bill for 1944. (See story on page 7.)

Anti-Poll Tax

3. Victory for the Anti-Poll Tax Bill in the House means that Polltaxers in the Senate will try every trick to delay and then filibuster the bill to death in the Senate.

HR 7 is now before a sub-

committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is still early in the 78th Session and if we keep pushing the fight the obstructionists will have a hard time stalling and filibustering as they did last year just six weeks before the end of the session. The crucial issue will be the question of limiting debate on the bill, so the poll-taxers can't filibuster it to death. Limited debate in the Senate is called cloture.

ACTION: Write your Congressman and tell him you are following the anti-poll tax bill in the Senate. Tell him you expect him to follow the wishes of the large majority of American voters and cast his vote for cloture and for the bill.

Price Control

4. Don't forget price control and roll-back. Our enemies remember these issues every day. An epidemic of Congressional committees to kill price control, price roll-back, subsidies and the OPA has broken out. We've got to keep telling our Congressmen and the new Office of War Mobilization that price control and roll-back (with subsidies) must be put

OUR WLB AND RELATED CASES

The table below summarizes the current Conciliation and War Labor Board cases of which the International Office has a record, as of June 7. If your case is not on this list, the reason is that your Local has not reported it to the International Office.

Conciliation

Name	Local
California Sanitary Packing Co., Los Angeles, Calif.	3
Cherry Growers, Inc., Traverse City, Mich.	178
Cudahy Products Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Four Peanut Co.'s, Suffolk, Va.	20
Fuhrer Ford Co., Mt. Vernon, Ind.	62
Gerber Canning Co., Fremont, Mich.	30
Greenville Cotton Oil Mill, Greenville, Miss.	263
Judd Hill Plantation, Trumann, Ark.	85
Pretlow Peanut Co., Franklin, Va.	26
Quaker Oats, Cedar Rapids, Iowa	110
Sterling Brands, Sterling, Ill.	310

WLB Dispute Cases — Washington

(Includes cases initiated before decentralization, those which were certified after decentralization but for special reasons are being handled by the Board in Washington, and cases recently certified but not yet referred to the proper region.)

Awaiting Report by Mediator, Referee or Panel

Name	Local	Date Certified
California Packing Corp., DeKalb & Rochelle, Ill.	17 & 18	Feb. 19, 1943
Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J., & Chicago, Ill. (including Camden Watchmen)	80 & 194	Mar. 24, 1943

Awaiting Union or Company Comments on Report

Name	Local	Date Certified
McLean Arkansas Lumber Co., No. Little Rock, Ark.	98	Nov. 27, 1942

In Review Section of Research Div., Washington, with Parties Comments, Being Prepared for Board Action

Name	Local	Date Certified
Larus & Bros., Richmond, Va.	577	Dec. 22, 1942

Appealed to Washington from Directive Order of Regional Board

Name	Local
Alaska Salmon Industry, Seattle, Wash.	5 & 7

WLB Dispute Cases — Regions

Name	Local	Date Certified
Acmeline Mfg. Co., Traverse City, Mich.	178	Jan. 28, 1943
Armour & Co., Bloomer, Wis.	24	Mar. 17, 1943
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., Little Rock, Ark.	98	Jan. 27, 1943
Chester C. Fosgate Co., Forrest City, Fla.	4	Mar. 25, 1943
College Inn Food Products, Chicago, Ill.	13	Jan. 18, 1943
Dunklin Co. Comp. & Whse., Kennett, Mo.	355	May 12, 1942
French Benzol & City Cleaners, Miami, Fla.	50	Jan., 1943
Koppers & Co., N. Little Rock, Ark.	98	Feb. 10, 1943
Lutheran Cemetery, Maspeth, L.I., N.Y.	293	May 19, 1943
Memphis Cotton Oil, Jackson Cotton Oil, Memphis, Tenn.	19	Apr. 5, 1943
Michigan Bean Co., Toledo, Ohio	81	May 20, 1943
Ruskin Tomato Growers, Ruskin, Fla.	9	May 21, 1942
Swift & Co., Harvey, La.	309	Jan. 18, 1943
Western Compress Co., Fresno, Calif.	254	Oct. 25, 1942

WLB Voluntary Wage Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local
Kind & Knox, Camden, N. J.	80

Pending in Regional WLB Offices

Name	Local
Alfieri Cigar Co., New York City	647
Consolidated Cigar, Lancaster, Pa.	638
Chase & Sanborn, Chicago, Ill.	194
J. W. Eshelman & Son, York, Pa.	101
Export Leaf, Richmond, Va.	350
DiNobili Cigar Co., Long Island, N. Y.	647
Federal Compress, Helena, Ark.	232
Federal Compress, Riverside Plant, Memphis, Tenn.	19
Hunt Bros. Packing Co., Fullerton, Calif.	2
Huron Milling Co., Harbor Beach, Mich.	20
Jiffy Paper Co., Unionville, N. J.	88
Lupo Cigar Co., New York City	647
Malone & Hyde, Memphis, Tenn.	19
Page Milk, Shelbyville, Ind.	29
Palumbo Cigar Co., New York City	647
Poinsett Lumber, Trumann, Ark.	85
Ponzio Cigar Co., Jersey City, N. J.	647
Tollbia Cheese, Fond Du Lac, Wis.	341
Tri-State Compress, Memphis, Tenn.	19
U. S. Glue & Gelatin, Carrollville, Wis.	495
Webster Cigar, Detroit, Mich.	281

into effect, so they will not weaken under pressure.

ACTION: Keep the letters from locals, Political Action Committees and individual members coming into Congress and don't forget to send letters to new War Mobiliza-

tion Director Vinson, Washington, D. C.

Has your local ordered the new CIO Pamphlet for all members?

This pamphlet tells you how to do "YOUR WAR JOB WITH CONGRESS."

LABOR of the UNITED NATIONS

Anglo-Soviet Unity

London, England (Allied Labor News)—At their annual conventions this month Britain's two largest unions of government employees—the Civil Service Clerical Association with 120,000 members and the Post Office Workers Union with 80,000 members—endorsed a proposal to set up a Civil Service Anglo-Soviet Committee "for the purpose of establishing closer relations with our fellow-workers in the USSR." Both unions voted also to reaffiliate with the Trades Union Congress in defiance of the Trades Disputes Act of 1927, which forbids unions of government employees to belong to the TUC. [Note: TUC is like our CIO and AFL.]

In urging the creation of the Civil Service Anglo-Soviet Committee, L. C. White, general secretary of the CSCA, pointed out that one of the worst effects of the Trades Disputes Act was to prevent British government employees from joining hands with their fellow workers in the U. S. and USSR through the medium of the TUC.

First Steps

Initial steps for the setting up of an Anglo-Soviet Committee, he said, had been taken at a joint conference of civil servants held recently in London. The following resolution, proposed by T. J. Hodgson, general secretary of the Post Office Workers, was unanimously passed by the London conference:

"That this meeting of British civil servants, recognizing that complete understanding between Britain and the USSR is the cornerstone of International understanding, declares its fellowship with the heroic Russian peoples in their struggle against the common enemy, and affirms the determination of British civil servants to play individually and collectively their full part in the achievement of a speedy victory and the establishment of a world order in which freedom-loving peoples can live in peace."

FIRST CONTRACT WON IN ECUADOR

By Manuel Marzo

Guayaquil, Ecuador (Allied Labor News)—History was made in Ecuador this week when a collective bargaining agreement was reached between the workers and management at the National Cement Company. Although the Ecuador Labor Code, promulgated in 1938, gave legal approval to collective bargaining, this was the first contract to be signed in the history of the country.

War Workers

The agreement has further significance, since the workers involved—members of the Building Trades Workers Union—make cement for the important U. S. bases at Santa Elena, on the Ecuador coast, and in the Ecuador-owned Galapagos Islands.

Under the terms of the contract, the 500 workers at the plant gain wage increases, improved working and living conditions and 15 days annual vacation with pay. Also, a special arbitration committee has been set up to deal with labor-management problems on the spot, instead of submitting them to the difficulties and delays of settlement under the machinery provided by the Labor Code.

Signing of this contract, it is believed, may lead not only to similar contracts in other industries, but also to nationwide enforcement of collective bargaining under the Labor Code. The workers at National Cement were the first in Ecuador to form workers' detachments to defend their plant in case of war against Germany and Japan, and to set up an anti-Nazi committee.

UNITED NATIONS FACTS

WINSTON CHURCHILL
HAS PLEDGED GREAT BRITAIN TO
HELP US DESTROY THE JAP—
EVEN IF THE NAZIS FALL FIRST



LEND-LEASE
WORKS BOTH WAYS!
AFTER PEARL HARBOR, BRITAIN
RUSHED BARRAGE BALLOONS TO
OUR WEST COAST (WE HAD NONE).
ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS AND ANTI-SUB-
MARINE CRAFT TO THE EAST COAST
(WE HAD FEW!)



100% OF THE MECHANIZED
TROOPS THAT SMASHED ROMMEL IN
LIBYA CAME FROM THE BRITISH ISLES



Un Programa De Accion

This column is written
for the benefit of our
many Spanish-speaking
members. We will appre-
ciate your comments.

Por Luisa Moreno, Int. Vice-Pres.

EL CIO está jugando un papel muy importante con relación a la guerra. Su programa inmediato fué condensado en seis resoluciones por la junta del Ejecutivo verificada los días 14 y 15 en la ciudad de Cleveland, Ohio. Procure usted, por medio de su unión local copias de dichas resoluciones.

La primera resolución se refiere a la promesa de no huelga durante la guerra. Sabemos que las huelgas, fuera de dañar el esfuerzo de guerra, dañan también la causa del trabajo. Así mismo, el CIO sostiene que deben ser derrotados todos los proyectos de leyes anti-obreros que están pendientes ante el Congreso de la Nación.

Pide el CIO en las demás resoluciones que se le dé autoridad al "War Labor Board" para eliminar las desigualdades de salarios; la estabilidad de precios y reducción

de precios donde han aumentado excesivamente; limitar las entradas individuales a \$25,000; un sistema de impuestos equitativo y la promulgación de los Proyectos de Leyes Pepper, Kilgore, Tolan para la centralización de la economía de guerra. También aboga el CIO por la abolición de la directiva que obliga a los trabajadores a permanecer en su empleo, sin consideración a las condiciones existentes en tal empleo. La permanencia en el empleo indica el CIO puede obtenerse en forma voluntaria y así elevarse la moral de los trabajadores en general.

Para darnos cuenta cabal del programa del CIO debemos leer cada una de las seis resoluciones y discutir las en nuestras juntas, así sabremos que nuestro apoyo activo a dicho programa es indispensable y urgente.

Notes LOCALS

COTTON

355 The officers of our Local received notice that a War Labor Board hearing will be held in Little Rock, Ark., between the Union and Kennett Compress Co. The Union representative will be chosen later.



Willie Strong, formerly an active committee man of Local 355 is now stationed at the U. S. Naval Training Station in Norfolk, Va., returned to camp on May 30, after spending a ten-day furlough with his wife and mother-in-law.

By Willie Watts, Press Agent

19 Petitions are being circulated among the 125 workers of the Cudahy Refinery (cottonseed oil mill) of Memphis, urging the U. S. Conciliation Service to take quick action to speed complete settlement of the contract, which Local 19 has been negotiating for six long months.

Final decision on wages will be up to Uncle Sam's War Labor Board.

Contract terms which have already been agreed to include union security, overtime pay, paid vacations, grievance procedure and seniority.

Unions Fighting Against Passage of Connally Bill

Washington, D. C.—As we go to press, the labor movement is fighting hard to prevent the passage of the drastic Connally-Smith anti-labor bill. Having been approved by House and Senate conferees, the bill is due for a final vote in both houses.

TOBACCO

Local 273 Aid Refugee Fund Drive

NEW YORK—Impetus to the fund raising activities of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee on behalf of the Spanish Republicans and members of the International Brigades was given by the announcement that Local 273, UCAPAWA, has designated the week beginning today as "Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee Week."

Armando Valdes, Int. Vice-Pres. of UCAPAWA, said that the splendid news given to the committee by Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles regarding the pending rescue of 2,000 Spanish Republicans in North African concentration camps, many of them trade unionists, and their wives and children, will spur organized shop collections for their relief and rehabilitation.

Ed Currie, Trade Union Director of the Committee, said that funds collected by the Union during the week would be turned over to the Labor War Chest by the Union.

Who Are the Foes of the Victory Food Program?

By Charles J. Coe
Editor, Facts for Farmers

New York (FP)—Passage of an \$800 million agricultural appropriation measure by a senate subcommittee does not mean that labor and the small farmers have won the fight to insure a Food-for-Victory program.

Clarich Honor Roll

For the month of May, the following Locals go on the "Remember Clarich Honor Roll" for having sent money to Mrs. Clarich and her four children in Corpus Christi, Texas: Local 7-2, \$2; Local 47, \$2; Local 55, \$2; Local 68, \$10.13; Local 79, \$2; Local 638, \$2; and the International Office Staff, \$11. Mrs. Clarich received in addition \$4 from the I.L.D. and from the crew of the NMU boat, S.S. Pan Carlina, \$28.60.

We still ask, where are the rest of the Locals? This is NOT a good UCAPAWA record, with only 6 locals contributing. The Clarich family cannot live on \$63.73 a month.

Chris Clarich was thrown into jail on a trumped-up murder charge during a strike of shrimp peelers in Aransas Pass, Texas, in 1939. He was President of a UCAPAWA Local.

Power Plant Votes 20 to 1 for Union

Milwaukee, Wisc.—Power plant workers at U. S. Gelatine, Local 495 in Carrollville, Wisc., voted 20 to 1 for UCAPAWA on June 3. These workers will be included in the benefits of the new contract recently won by the 350 production workers, and their wage demands will go to the War Labor Board, together with the others, according to Int. Rep. James De Witt.

Tolibia Cheese Gains

Another recently organized Wisconsin plant, Tolibia Cheese of Fond Du Lac, part of Local 341 has also extended its recent gains. Here through a card check, eight workers came under UCAPAWA. Here, too, they will be covered by the newly signed contract and the question of their wage increases included with the case of the other Tolibia workers.

The bill must still be passed by the Senate and sent back to the House, where it faces the strong opposition of the reactionary farm bloc.

It is vital that labor know who its enemies are in this battle to insure enough food for the nation and its fighting men. Here is a brief resume:

Hoover, The Leader

At the apex of the farm bloc pyramid is Herbert Hoover, spokesman for the farm policies of the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, who was dusted off for the job after the NAM Resolutions Committee decided in September 1942 that it must promote its program in the farm areas.

The NAM spent a good deal of money to insure election of men favorable to its own so-called food program.

For example, to insure the election of Sen. Harlan Bushfield (R., S. D.), Lamont du Pont gave \$4,000 to the campaign fund of the Republican State Committee; Irene du Pont gave another \$2,500; Mary Ethel Pew, Joseph Pew, Jr., and Mabel Pew Myrin each gave \$1,000; Col. Robert McCormick donated \$5,000; and Donaldson Brown, together with Alfred P. Sloan of General Motors, gave \$4,500 between them.

Anti-Labor Bloc

Since the farm bloc is a changing coalition rather than a hard and fast group, it operates as a bloc whenever the farm masquerade serves as a convenient disguise for its anti-labor or pro-inflation objectives.

Among its most consistent leaders are: Senators "Cotton Ed" Smith, Thomas (Okla.), Bankhead, Gillette, Bushfield, Shipstead, Capper, Reed, Russell and Aiken; Representatives Cannon (Mo.), Dirksen, Taber, Anderson, Tarver, Labertson, Wene, Plumley and Flannagan.

Directly behind the NAM and its Congressmen is the farm lobby, headed by Edward A. O'Neal of the American Farm Bureau Federation and Earl Smith, its vice-president. Other members are the Natl. Grange, the Natl. Council of Farmer Cooperatives and the Natl. Cooperative Milk Producers Federation.

Would Kill FSA

The bill which they forced through the House, only to meet temporary defeat in the Senate subcommittee, would kill the Farm Security Administration, deny incentive payments, cut conservation payments, eliminate parity payments, and increase cotton acreage at the expense of vital food crops.

SAFETY FIRST—



—Released by WPB Labor Press Service.

Of course, your neck or your leg or arm.
Belong to you, not me;
But, listen, try keeping yourself from harm.
In your job wherever it be.
Be safe, be careful, be sure, be fit—
So you keep in the ranks and do your bit—
For the hours you lose won't make a bit
Or load 'em for liberty!

Taylor Prefers Aliens Instead Of Union Labor

Washington (FP)—Col. Taylor, so-called labor expert picked by War Food Administrator Chester Davis, doesn't like the phrase, "slave labor".

When Int. Vice-Pres. Otis Nation came up from Florida to offer him 500 workers, with 500 more to come, Taylor told him they weren't wanted. Nation's version of the conversation goes like this:

Nation: "I've heard of this farm labor shortage. The citrus crop is in and there are 19,000 farm workers working only at part time jobs here and there now. I can give you 500 from one county."

Taylor: "The growers and shippers don't want native labor. They say they drink. And I'm from the south. I know our nigras."

Nation: "Well, what if they strike for some reason? Our workers won't strike, as they have a Union behind them, and discipline. What if the Bahamans strike, though?"

"We Packed Up And Went North"

Philadelphia, Pa.—The letter printed below was received by UCAPAWA from Leroy Pullum, Pres. of Local 349 of Harviell, Mo., who is working on a farm similar to the one described in the picture at the bottom of this page.

The Executive Board when they heard Bro. Pullum's letter, passed a vote of appreciation for the UCAPAWA spirit of Local 349 and congratulated the members in Massachusetts for the splendid "food for Victory" work in which they are engaged. Bro. Pullum writes:

Dear Mr. Harold Lane:

We are glad of the FSA for the good work they have done. On April 8 we packed our trunks and suitcases and went to Poplar Bluff, Mo. and went there on a special bus and went to Sikeston, Mo., then we caught the train to St. Louis, all the way to Massachusetts.

The FSA fed all of us three times every day, so we all got good treatment all the way and when we got to Massachusetts we were treated nice there. So we 24 families have good houses to stay in and good boss men to stay with, and good doctors.

Our work is picking spinach, tomatoes and radishes and many other jobs to do. We work every day. We get 40c an hour for the men, and the women get 30c an hour. We work 9½ hours a day.

The FSA has given us our contracts so we are all OK and we work in greenhouses when it is raining. So Mr. Harold Lane, give this letter to the Editor, please, so the news can go everywhere.

So our program is Food for Victory and winning the war over the Axis and we must win Victory.

Leroy Pullum, Pres.,
Local 349

Local 349 Seeks Democratic World

Harviell, Mo.—We see where our Secretary Treasurer Harold J. Lane says "Forward March." Local 349 is marching, looking for a new world, a world of democracy.

We workers must stand together and fight together and die together.

The planters here are now ready to start chopping cotton. Pay is a great big \$2 a day for 15 hours.

By Hasie Johnson, Press Agent,
Sharecropper Local 349

MEET OUR LEADERS:

President
Donald Henderson

(This is the first in a series of articles about UCAPAWA'S leaders. Meet them all in the coming issues of the News.)

MANY members of UCAPAWA have already gotten to know President Henderson's compelling voice at conventions and meetings; they know his warm personality and deep concern for workers' problems. That voice has been sharpened in more than nine years of struggle to organize agricultural, cannery and tobacco workers, for Henderson was the first to bring these widely scattered workers together under one big union banner.

A Young President

At forty-one, Don Henderson is young for a union president, but he started early as a union man, becoming a member of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers at the age of eighteen.

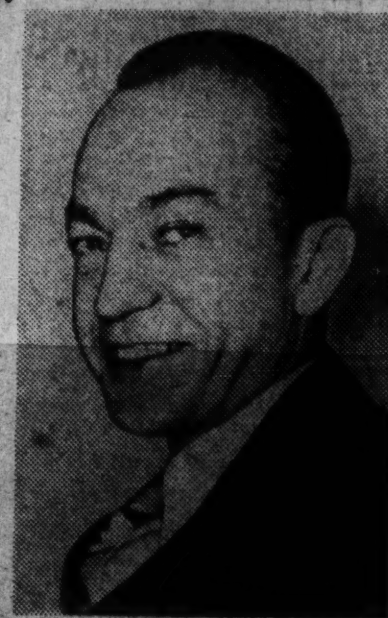
Henderson was born in New York and brought up on a farm in Montpelier, Vermont. His father is still a dairy farmer, now in Western Pennsylvania; his mother is a dressmaker and pianist. He has a brother fighting in Guadalcanal and a sister who is doing her bit as a telegraph operator. His three children, Curtis, Lynn and Donald, Jr., are growing up fast.

Working on his father's farm, Henderson learned of the hardships and trials of small farmers and ag workers at an early age. He had to work his way through college and became a top-notch railroad telegrapher. After finishing his studies, he taught school for seven years, at Rutgers and then Columbia University. It was at Columbia that he began fighting injustices, defending the civil liberties and free speech of students and teachers.

Begins To Organize

In 1934, Henderson packed away his books and took up the standard of cannery and agricultural workers, of all those who work on products from the land. He worked through the length and breadth of the country, organizing these workers into AFL unions laying the basis for our present International.

Always at his side was his wife, Eleanor Curtis. Together they



built a school in California, in February and March of 1934, to train union organizers. Eleanor Curtis was a leader of the strike of the Seabrook cannery and farm workers in that same year. Later she became the first editor of UCAPAWA News. Her untimely death in 1941 was a tragic shock to the members of the Union who knew her tireless work so well.

As Part of the CIO

The rise of the great CIO heralded a new day for food and fibre workers. In 1937, delegates of 80 local unions throughout the country assembled in Denver, Colorado, to form UCAPAWA-CIO, electing Donald Henderson as General President.

Since then the union has made its mark on the labor movement. In 1937, the shed workers of California and Arizona turned their backs on their old AFL union to form what is now our powerful Local 78. Today, with 173 contracts, this Local covers the whole fresh fruit and vegetable shed industry of the West.

Alaskan, Canned Salmon workers, to mention another early group, won their first UCAPAWA

contracts in 1937-38. And a three year struggle finally won contracts in the big Campbell Soup plants in Chicago and Camden in 1940, governing the rights of 5,000 year-round and 8,000 seasonal workers.

Bridge to Farmers

With the cornerstone laid, UCAPAWA started on its steady and solid growth, in step with the entire CIO movement for strong, democratic Unions.

But UCAPAWA from the beginning had a special job and responsibility, a fact which is always foremost in Pres. Henderson's mind. UCAPAWA turns its eyes not only to the sheds and factories where agricultural products are processed, but also to the vast country-side of America.

As Pres. Henderson said recently in explaining our special role in fighting for Food for Victory, "we are the Union most closely connected to the farmers and the great industry of agriculture."

Although the 3 to 4 millions of agricultural workers are as yet largely unorganized, UCAPAWA is the only organization through which these workers can speak and which can speak for them.

But further still, on UCAPAWA shoulders rests the leadership in cementing unity between the working farmers of America and the labor movement. As the result of Pres. Henderson's leadership, an historic farmer-labor unity document was signed in 1938 between the Farmers' Union, Labor's Non-Partisan League (CIO's political arm at that time) and UCAPAWA.

Today UCAPAWA is working to strengthen farmer-labor solidarity behind win-the-war policies, promoting measures that will help the farmers to grow food for victory, and encouraging the labor movement and working farmers to pull together, and to break the stranglehold of the reactionary big-shot farm organizations.

Pres. Henderson can rightly say today: "UCAPAWA is not the biggest of the 40-odd CIO unions—but our obligations and leadership to the entire CIO and the labor movement is of the highest."

MISSOURI LOCAL 349 SHARECROPPERS AT WORK ON A MASSACHUSETTS FARM.

NEEDED: 100,000 MORE SCENES LIKE THIS



West Bridgewater, Mass.—A long way from home, these members of Harviell, Mo., sharecropper Local 349, are busy growing food for victory in Massachusetts. When News Editor Connie Anderson visited them on June 2, she found a scene like the above, with hoes clicking busily against the New England stones, rooting out the weeds from the long rows of young broccoli plants.

In the picture, left to right are: Alfred Williams, Henry Creig, Andrew Ice, William Henry Davis, Jane May Nelson, Joe Flemmens, and Herbert Holmes, owner of the farm.

From previous letters in the News and the one above from Brother Pullum, UCAPAWA members are familiar with how pleased the Harviell members are to be able to get this steady work. "When you see how glad they are for steady work, for pay of even 30 and 40c an hour, for a modest home with running water and good cook stove, for bosses that treat them like fellow-human beings, you can begin to understand, says Sister Anderson, what suffering they must have been through in Missouri. They were eager for news of UCAPAWA and hoped they "had not been forgotten."

Brought up by FSA under terms of regular signed contracts with the Government, these members show one important way in which labor could be found for food crops—if the farm bloc had helped instead of killing the FSA labor program in Congress.

Farmer Holmes, who intends to bring 100,000 boxes of vegetables to market keeps asking, "why cannot at least seven more Southern workers come to help me?—I had counted on them. How will we ever be able to harvest the 50 acres of beans?" Had it not been for FSA promise of help, only 25 acres would have been planted. As it was, 125 acres are full of thriving vegetables. But FSA was killed before the job was finished.

The 90 Southern workers in this area are only a drop in the bucket. Some 2,000,000 sharecropper families have been tied down in the South so that the cotton planters might have a pool of cheap and "docile" labor. And with two years' supply of cotton on hand, the fighting United Nations do not need cotton. They need food which the farmer Holmeses of the U. S. A. together with hard-working Southern sharecroppers could produce—if given the chance.